

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A device comprising:

a housing defining a cavity, an opening at which a buffered fiber cable can be input into the housing, and at least one channel through which at least a first optical fiber of the buffered fiber cable can be fed, the housing including a spindle arranged adjacent the cavity;

a first cassette defining a groove having an open end and a closed end, the groove configured to receive the spindle through the open end to mount the first cassette within the cavity of the housing, the closed end of the groove cooperates with the spindle to form a pivot point about which the first cassette pivots, the first cassette being configured to receive and store an excess length of the first optical fiber, the first cassette also being configured to pivot about the pivot point from a first position, in which the first cassette is positioned within the cavity of the housing, to a second position, in which at least a portion of the first cassette is positioned outside the housing, the first cassette also being configured to be separated and removed from the housing by pivoting the first cassette to the second position and sliding the first cassette-spindle through the open end of the groove in a direction transverse to the spindle until the spindle passes through the open end of the groove;

wherein the excess length of the first optical fiber is sufficiently long to allow the separation and removal of the first cassette from the housing to a remote workstation.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the first cassette includes a first coupling element at which the first optical fiber can be optically coupled to a second optical fiber.

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 14, wherein the first coupling element is formed as a splicing unit.

16. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 14, wherein the first coupling element is configured to receive first and second plug-in contacts.

17. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 14, further comprising a second cassette configured to mount within the cavity of the housing, the second cassette having a second coupling element configured to receive and store a wound, excess length of at least a third optical fiber.

18. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 17, wherein the second cassette is pivotally mounted to the housing.

19. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18, wherein the second cassette is removably mounted to the housing.

20. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 17, wherein the second optical fiber forms the buffered fiber cable with the first optical fiber.

21. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 17, wherein the second optical fiber forms a second buffered fiber cable separate from the first buffered fiber cable.

22. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, further comprising a plurality of cassettes configured to mount within the cavity of the housing.

23. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the first cassette includes at least a first guide element defining at least one path for receiving at least the first optical fiber, the

path defined by the guide element including a minimum radius of curvature greater than a minimum-permissible bend radius of the first optical fiber.

24-25. (Canceled)

26. (NEW) A device comprising:

a housing defining a cavity and a channel leading from an exterior of the housing to the cavity, the housing including a spindle arranged adjacent the cavity;

a first cassette pivotally mounted to the spindle of the housing, the first cassette including a splicing unit and at least one guide element, the first cassette defining a groove having an open end and a closed end, the groove being configured to receive the spindle of the housing through the open end to mount the first cassette within the cavity of the housing, the closed end of the groove cooperating with the spindle to form a pivot point about which the first cassette pivots, the first cassette being configured to pivot about the pivot point from a first position, in which the first cassette is positioned within the cavity of the housing, to a second position, in which at least a portion of the first cassette is positioned outside the housing, the first cassette also being configured to be separated and removed from the housing by pivoting the first cassette to the second position and sliding the spindle through the open end of the groove in a direction transverse to the spindle;

a first optical fiber extending through a channel in the housing to the first cassette, the first optical fiber being routed to the splicing unit by the guide element;

a second optical fiber extending through the channel in the housing to the first cassette, the second optical fiber being routed to the splicing unit by the guide element, wherein the second optical fiber is spliced to the first optical fiber and secured to the splicing unit of the first cassette.